

Received & Inspected  
JUN 20 2016  
FCC Mail Room



May 27, 2016

Federal Communication Commission  
445 12th Street, SW,  
Washington DC 20554

Reference: WT Docket No. 16-162 - Response

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear FCC,

I own and operate a domestic commercial passenger-carrying vessel that does not engage in international voyages to a foreign port. I am submitting this letter in support of the U.S. Coast Guard proposal as stated in the published public notice:

"WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON U.S. COAST GUARD REQUEST FOR WAIVER TO PERMIT USE OF CLASS D VHF DIGITAL SELECTIVE CALLING EQUIPMENT IN LIEU OF CLASS A EQUIPMENT"

Coast Guard requests a blanket waiver to permit all Subpart S and W passenger-carrying vessels that do not travel internationally to use Class D equipment to satisfy the VHF-DSC carriage requirement, provided that the radio contains integral Global Positioning System capabilities or is connected to an electronic position-fixing device. It states that both Class A and Class D radios are sufficient for the Rescue 21 System and provide an equivalent level of safety, because both share the same basic capabilities to instantly send distress alerts and to initiate or receive radio telephone calls.

Sincerely,

John Conniff  
Owner/Operator  
M/V Islander

No. of Copies rec'd \_\_\_\_\_  
List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

042